

REMARKS

I. Status Of Claims

Claims 1-14 are pending.

Claims 11, 12 and 14 are allowed. The Applicant thanks the Examiner for recognizing that these claims contain allowable subject matter.

Claims 1-10 and 13 are rejected.

Claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 9 and 13 are amended.

After entry of the amendment submitted herein, claims 1-14 remain pending.

II. Objection to the Drawing

The Examiner objects to FIG. 1 for not being properly labeled as "Prior Art." In response, FIG. 1 is amended to be designated as "Prior Art." Revised drawing sheet 1/1 labeled as "Replacement Sheet" is submitted.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is requested.

III. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

The Examiner rejects claims 1-10, and 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention.

In response, claim 1, 2, 9 and 13 are amended to correct the defects identified by the Examiner. Specifically, claim 1 is amended to now recite "a plurality of flexible connectors, each of which is arranged . . ." so that "each of which" is properly referring to the plurality of flexible connectors. Claim 1 is further amended to now positively recite "a patient's support."

The recitations of “or the like” in claims 2 and 13 are deleted. And finally, the recitation of “and other similar imaging devices” in claim 9 is deleted.

The amendments to claims 1, 2, 9, and 13 are fully supported by the disclosure of the originally filed specification and no new matter has been added. The applicant believes that claims 1-10, and 13 are now in full compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

IV. Other Amendments

Claim 7 is amended to delete the recitation of a reference number 5.

Claim 8 is amended to correct the recitation of “the remote operation means” to “the remote observation means” which finds proper antecedent basis in the parent claim 1.

V. Summary

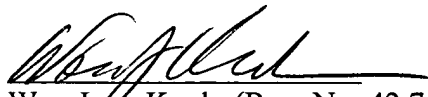
The Applicant believes that all outstanding issues have been addressed by the amendments submitted herein. All amendments are fully supported by the disclosure of the originally filed Specification and no new matter has been added. The Applicant believes that upon entry of the amendments submitted herein, the pending claims 1-14 are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested.

The Examiner is respectfully urged to contact the undersigned attorney if he has any questions regarding the amendments submitted herein.

This paper is being filed within the THREE MONTHS shortened statutory period and no fee is believed due. If a fee is due, however, please charge to Duane Morris Deposit Account No. 50-2061.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 2, 2005

  
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Enclosure

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In The Drawings:

In response to the Examiner's objection to the legend for FIG. 1, FIG. 1 has been amended to be properly designated as -- Prior Art --. A "Replacement Sheet" is submitted herewith.